

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ A cover for a manhole top with a cover body [(12)] and with at least one locking means [(20)] arranged on the cover body [(12)], said locking means having a spring section (~~21 through 24~~) and, arranged thereon, an engagement section [(26)] that can be brought into engagement with a part [(36)] of a frame [(30)], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring section (~~21 through 24~~) is attached by each of [(its)] two ends of the spring section to the cover body [(12)] and is otherwise separated from the cover body [(12)], and the engagement section [(26)] is arranged between the two ends of the spring section (~~21 through 24~~), and wherein the spring section is designed as an annular body, which is attached to the cover body by a retaining section that essentially joins the two ends of the spring section.

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring section (~~21 through 24~~) extends approximately parallel to the cover body [(12)].

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim [(3)] ~~1,~~ characterized in that wherein the annular body has the approximate shape of a circle.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim 4, characterized in that wherein the engagement section is arranged at a location essentially diametrically opposite the retaining section.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim [[3]] 1, characterized in that wherein the annular body (21 through 24) has the approximate shape of an oval with two; ~~preferably semicircular;~~ curved sections (21, 22) and two essentially elongated sections (23, 24) connecting these two curved sections (21, 22) to one another.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim 6, characterized in that wherein the retaining section [[(25)]] is located on one elongated section[[(24)]], and the engagement section [[(26)]] is located on the other elongated section[[(23)]].

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to claim 7, characterized in that wherein the elongated section [[(23)]] bearing the engagement section [[(26)]] is recessed relative to the ends of the curved sections (21, 22) that are connected by this elongated section[[(23)]].

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that wherein the engagement section [[(26)]] has a wedge-shaped detent section.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to ~~at least one of~~ the preceding claims claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means [(20)] is located on the underside of the cover body [(12)].

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~Cover~~ The cover according to ~~at least one of~~ the preceding claims claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the cover [(10)] is provided with stiffening ribs [(16)], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means [(20)] are located a distance apart from the stiffening ribs [(16)] on the cover body [(12)].

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~Manhole~~ A manhole top [(with)] comprising:
a cover [(10)] configured according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1; and
[(with)] a frame [(30)] for accommodating the cover [(10)].

Claim 13 (new): The cover according to claim 6, wherein the curved sections are semicircular.